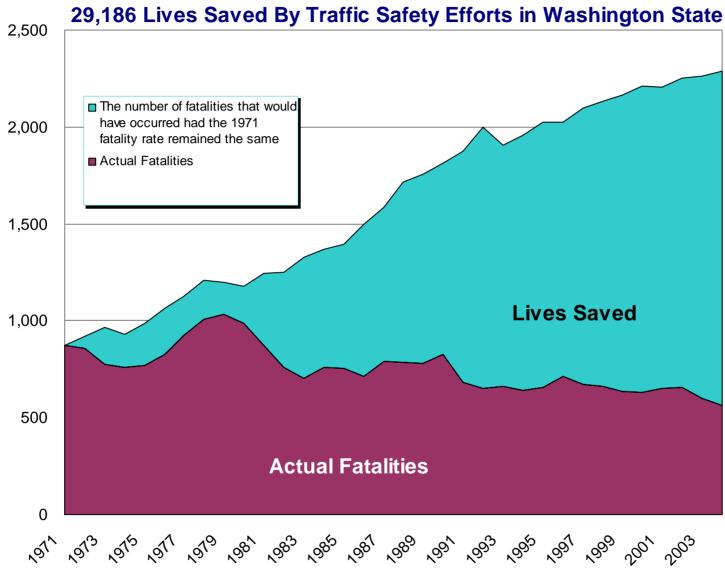
# Washington State's Multi-Agency Approach to Achieving Highway Safety

MADD/NHTSA Law Enforcement Leadership Summit Reno, Nevada • July 11, 2005



Brian A. Ursino
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Washington State Patrol



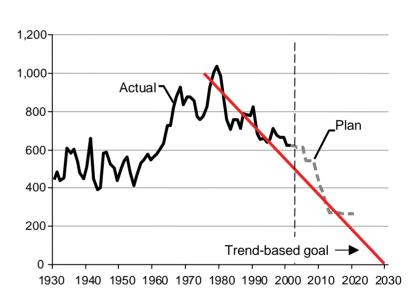
In 1971, Washington's roadway death rate was 4.1 deaths per 100 million miles of travel. The 2004 rate was 1.01 deaths per 100 million miles of travel. If we had continued with the 1971 death rate, another 29,186 people would have lost their lives in collisions in Washington State.

Data source: Fatality Analysis Reporting System, Wa. State Patrol, Washington State Department of Transportation and the Wa. Traffic Safety Commission (360) 753-6197.

## Setting goals that matter ...

- We can't prevent all crashes.
- Property damage can be insured against.
- Minor injuries are recoverable.
- Disabling long-term injuries are unacceptable.
- Fatalities are unacceptable

#### A plan and a trend-based goal



No Fatalities by the Year 2030

## ... Zero Deaths by 2030

### What Will it Take to Achieve our Zero Death Goal?

- Public and Legislative support
- Funding
- Agencies' commitment & coordination

### Taking a Team Approach to Addressing the Issues

#### **Partners** Issues ■ Impaired Drivers □ EMS □ Seat Belt Use □ Aggressive Drivers □ Legislature □ NHTSA □ Bicycles ■ Emergency Response □ MADD □ Pedestrians □ USDOT □ WSDOT □ Road Environment □ WASPC □ Sleepy Drivers □ WTSC □ Trucks □ WSP ■ Work Zone Safety ■ Many More ☐ Young and Senior Drivers

# WSP Management Philosophy

- Accountability Driven Leadership
- Strategic Advancement Forum
- Data Driven Decision Making
- Intelligence-Led Policing
- Problem Oriented Public Safety (POPS)

# WSP Traffic Law Enforcement Focus

- DUI
- Speed Dangerous
- Aggressive Driving
- Occupant Protection
- District Specific

#### In the past 12 months (May)

- Fatal collisions are reduced by 14%.
- DUI related fatal collisions were reduced by 37%.
- Injury collisions on all roadways patrolled by WSP are down 2%.
- Speed Related Non-Reportable Collisions are down 25%.

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## **WSP Significant Accomplishments**

FOB Core Mission Statistics - 659 Line Troopers						
	2003	2004	Difference	% Change		
DUI	17,457	18,209	752	4%		
Aggressive Driving Contacts	35,063	39,714	4,651	13%		
Speed Tickets	220,183	197,693	-22,490	-10%		
Speed Stops	452,158	454,166	2,008	0%		
Occupant Protection Stops	91,726	77,840	-13,886	-15%		
Occupant Protection Tickets	72,041	57,826	-14,215	-20%		
Total Violator Stops	1,101,727	1,074,208	-27,519	-2%		

- Injury collisions on state highways are down 5%
- Fatal collisions on state highways reduced by 10%

Core Mission Outcome Measures						
	2003	2004	Difference	% Change		
Total Reportable Collisions	31,613	31,546	-67	-0.2%		
Injury Collisions	10,725	10,227	-498	-4.6%		
Fatal Collisions	317	286	-31	-9.8%		

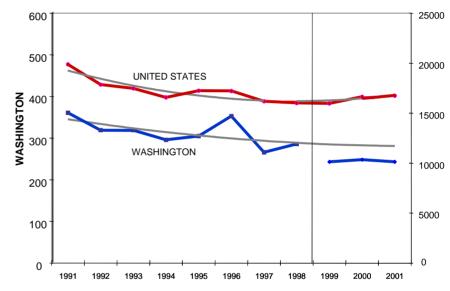


## **Impaired Drivers: An Enforcement Priority**

- 0.08 DUI Law
- Breath Interlocks
- First Day Appearance
- Suspensions
- Vehicle Impound
- Jail Time
- Home Confinement

Increased Focus on Impaired
Drivers but with Less
Payoff...Solving the alcohol
issue is daunting and expensive.

### Alcohol Related Deaths Washington as Compared to the United States





# The Washington Drug Evaluation Classification Program

The Washington Drug Evaluation Classification (DEC) Program is managed and coordinated by the Washington State Patrol since its inception in 1996. The DEC Program trains police officers to recognize impairment caused by drugs other than alcohol. These officers are called Drug Recognition Experts (DREs)

Washington is one of 38 states in the program under the guidance and direction of the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) and supported by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). Washington currently has 165 certified DRE officers.

The Washington DEC Program is dedicated to reducing the number of drug and alcohol related crashes.



### Washington State Patrol (WSP) and the DEC Program

How are we as an agency supporting the DEC Program?

- 54 percent of the DRE officers in Washington State are WSP Troopers and they conduct 65 percent of the evaluations in the State.
- The WSP has set a higher standard by requiring a minimum of 10 evaluations a year versus 5 evaluations per year that is required of state agencies.\*
- The WSP requires a DRE officer respond to all fatal and serious injury collisions as well as a collision involving a law enforcement officer where drugs may be a contributing factor.

<sup>\*</sup>This will take effect January 1, 2006. If a DRE officer is unable to complete the full 10 evaluations, they must dedicate 4 hours per evaluation to the DEC Program while still completing at least 2 evaluations per year.





# **Using the POPS Philosophy**

Example #1



### **SCANNING**

### **Problem Definition:**

Felony collision suspects failing to appear in court. Fugitives freedom results not only in the substantial delay in justice and closure for victims and victim families, but also the opportunity for these suspects to repeat offend and create new victims.

Union Gap

Vancouver





### **ANALYSIS**

Bremerton,

Spokane Spokane

## Baseline:

### Wenatchee

- Number of persons wanted on WSP (CID) investigated <u>felony collisions</u> (Vehicular Homicide, Vehicular Assault, and Felony Hit & Run) as of September 2003: <u>31</u>.
- ➤ Average number of days fugitives were free prior to their capture: 1,099 days.
- Emotional impact on victims and victim families: <u>Immeasurable</u> (but we have anecdotal evidence of the positive impact this project has had).

Vancouver



# **WASHINGTON STATE PATROL**

**WSP's Most Wanted** 

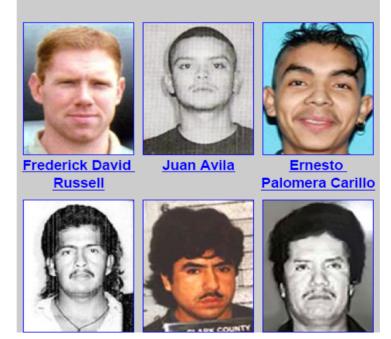
Last updated: Jun 2, 2005

#### **Photos of Wanted Suspects**

"The Washington State Patrol continues to actively search for the suspects on this page. The crimes they committed affected individuals and families across our state and forever changed lives. Yet, they have not been held accountable for what they did because they fled justice. Our thoughts are with the victims each day. For these victims, we want justice. No matter how long it takes or where they may be, we will find these suspects and hold them accountable for their actions. — Chief Lowell M. Porter"

If you have any information on the whereabouts of any these wanted persons, WSP contact information is listed at the

bottom of each poster.







# **WASHINGTON STATE PATROL**

WSP's Most Wanted – ARRESTS

Last updated: Jun 2, 2005

U.S. Arrest Locations

**WA State Arrest Locations** 

The individuals below are previous fugitives that have been arrested.



Kelly W. Shields
Arrested 5-15-2005
Vehicular Assault
Taking Motor Vehicle without
Permission



Rebecca C. Solomon Arrested 4-21-2005 Vehicular Assault



Clarence Charles
Arrested 4-28-2005
Felony (fatality) Hit & Run



Sharon Kay Cook Arrested 5-02-2005 Vehicular Assault



Emily J. Holloway Arrested 4-14-2005 Felony Vehicular Assault



Clifton J. Cornelius
Arrested 3-17-2005
Auto Theft



#### A TOP A

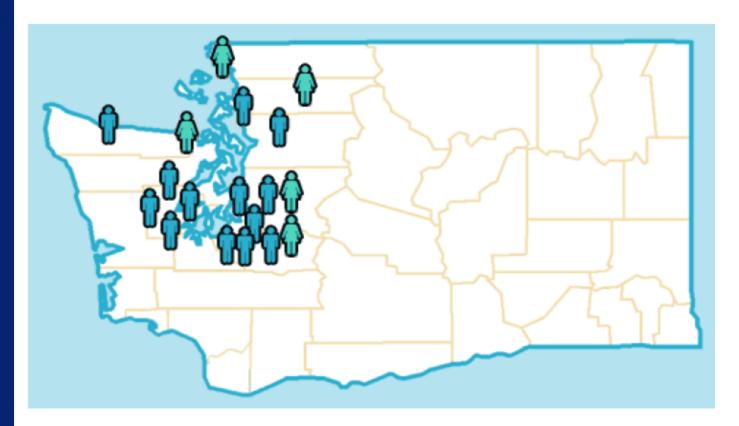
# **WASHINGTON STATE PATROL**

#### WSP's Most Wanted

Arrest Locations in Washington State

Last updated: Jun 2, 2005

Click on any of the male or female icons to view the arrested subject





#### A TOP A

# WASHINGTON STATE PATROL

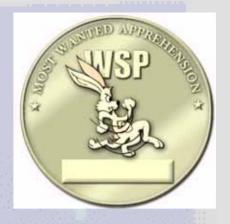
### WSP's Most Wanted Arrest Locations in the United States

Updated: October 6, 2004





# ASSESSMENT



DEGREE OF PROJECT IMPACT: PROBLEM SUBSTANTIALLY REDUCED.

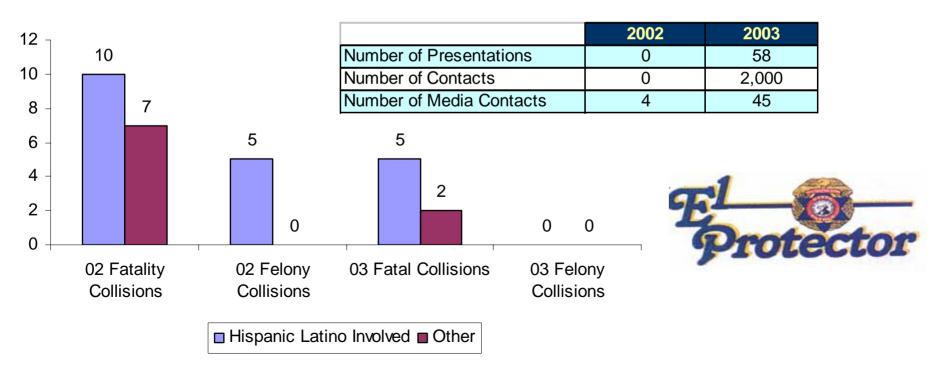
- ➤In the 16-month period between September 2003 and December 31, 2004, 29 fugitives were arrested from proactive investigative efforts.
- Now, the average time a fugitive is free is only <u>70 days</u>. This is a <u>decrease</u> of 1,029 days (nearly three years) that these fugitives are eluding justice.
- ➤Only 45% of the <u>original</u> 31 fugitives have been arrested, however, 75% of the suspects who have fled since this POPS project began have been arrested, <u>proving</u> that the hot pursuit is 30% more effective in capturing fugitives than relying on <u>happenstance law enforcement encounters</u>.

Vancouver

## **Using the POPS Philosophy** – Example #2

# Hispanic/Latino Community Educational Outreach WSP El Protector Program

- Mission: Educational outreach to the Hispanic/Latino community that address driving under the influence (DUI) and occupant protection education, built in collaboration with community stakeholders.
- Goal: Reduce the number of fatality crashes involving Hispanic/Latino drivers/occupants.



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# Successful Partnership – Example #1 DOT

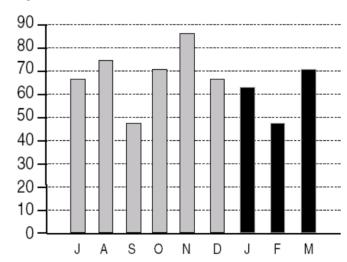
# JOPS – Working together to clear accidents

A Joint Operations Policy Statement (JOPS) between the State Patrol and the Washington WSDOT. Signed February 13, 2002.

- Enhanced WSP presence in highway work zones
- Modernized accident investigation
- 90-minute highway incident clearance goal on congested freeways
- Radio interoperability
- Co-location of facilities wherever possible

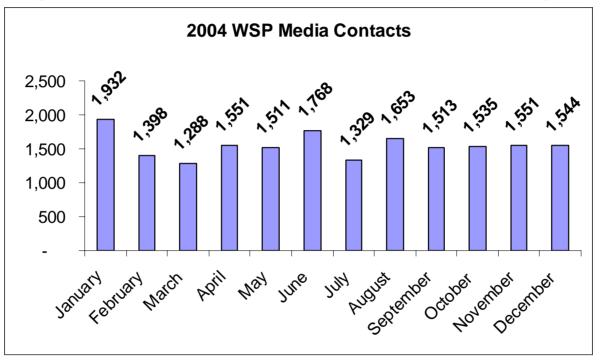
"Clearing Roads, Helping Drivers"

#### Number of Over 90-Minute Incidents July 2002 to March 2003



# Successful Partnership – Example #2 Media

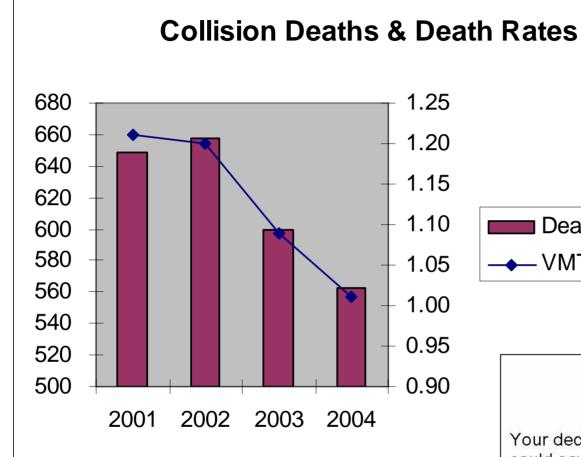
**Working with Media to Provide Public Safety Messages** 



There were a total of 18,573 media stories that WSP was involved in, dealing with traffic safety messages in 2004.

#### **Examples**:

- Drive Hammered Get Nailed.
- Click it or Ticket.
- Emphasis Patrols over holiday weekends.



■ Deaths
■ VMT Death Rate

Your decision could save someone's life!



